CLAIMS

1. A mobile camera telephone comprising:
a camera module for capturing an image and providing digital data in an RAW format; and
an application processor including a CPU for controlling the operation of the telephone and hardware arranged to perform camera image processing on the digital data in RAW format received from the camera module.

2. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in claim 1, wherein the camera module comprises optics, an image sensor and an analogue to digital converter only, and is without image processing facility.

3. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the digital data is the digitized output of an image sensor.

4. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in claim 1 wherein the camera module comprises reducing means for reducing the size of the provided digital data.

5. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in claim 4, wherein the reducing means involves bit depth reduction.

6. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein the reducing means involves lossless compression and the application processor includes means for lossless decompression before image processing.

7. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in any one of claims 1 and 4 to 6, wherein the camera module further comprises means for predetermined and limited image processing.

8. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in any one of claims 1 and 4 to 7, wherein the camera module further comprises gamma correction means for

gamma correcting the digital data before its provision to the application processor.

9. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in any one of claims 1 and 4 to 8, wherein the application processor performs camera image processing excluding gamma correction.

10. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in any one of claims 1 and 4 to 6, wherein the application processor is a system on a chip.

11. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the application processor includes a hard-wired pipeline processor for camera image processing.

12. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the application processor includes a programmable hardware accelerator.

13. A mobile camera telephone as claimed in claim 12, wherein the programmable hardware accelerator is a SIMD processing accelerator optimized for camera image processing.

14. A method of recording an image using a mobile camera telephone comprising the steps of:

capturing an image in a first camera component of the mobile camera telephone

sending digital data in an RAW format from the first camera component to a second application processing component of the mobile camera telephone; and,

in the second application processing component, both image processing the digital data in RAW format to produce an image for viewing and controlling the storage of that image in the telephone.